coal supplied by the Coal India Limited

71. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL:

SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Gov ernment has been drawn to the news-item captioned "ClL's poor quality incites consumer protest" as publish ed in the 'Indian Express' of 5th July, 1987;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that a large number of complaints have been received from various sec tions about the inferior quality of coal supplied by the CIL; and

(c) what is the reaction of Govern ment thereto and what further steps have been contemplated by Govern ment to improve the quality of coal?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) There have been some complaints about the quality of coal by consumers. These com-pliaints relate to size of coal, low calorific value and the presence of extraneous material. Each of these complaints is investigated and corrective action taken. Im-portant steps taken to improve the quality of coal supplied to the consumers include:

(1) Setting up of a quality control organisation in each coal company.

(2) Installation of coal handling and screening plants in a phased Manner.

(3) Breaking of oversize coal and removal of extraneous material manually to the extent possible at loading points where coal handling plants are not available.

(4) Facilities of pre-inspection to consumers at loading points.

Setting up of more Power Projects

72. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government propose to set up some more power projects in the States where there is acute power shortage;

(b) if so, what axe the details thereof;

(c) which are the States facing acute shortage of power at present; and

(d) by when the proposed power projects will be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA. ROHATGI): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Central Government proposes to set up more power projects to mitigate the power shortages in States. The details are given in the attached statement (*See* below).

(c) During the period April—June, 1987, the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar. Karnataka, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh faced power shortages of more than 10 per cent.

(d). These projects are intended to yield benefits during the Seventh and Eighth Plan periods.